



1232 National Road  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
304-242-2455  
christumcwheeling@gmail.com  
November 2023, Issue 320

#### IN-PERSON WORSHIP

8:30 a.m. in the Chapel  
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

#### ONLINE SERVICE

christwheeling.org

Watch live Sundays @ 11 a.m.  
or watch recorded services  
posted after 12 pm on Sundays

#### Staff

Rev. Jake Steele

Pastor

Bill Stephens

Choir Director

Stephanie Gates

Children's Choir Director

Judith Allison

Organist

Carla Barris

Office Manager

Chelsea Young

Communications

Jamie Lafferty

Nursery Attendant

Ron Miller

Custodian

## *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come!*

Let me guess: You read the title and now you can't stop humming the tune, huh? I apologize in advance. *Well, not really*, since there are worse proverbial songs stuck within our collective crawls. I love the invitational tone in the old hymn, though. It's as if we can accept or decline, sing along or sit it out:

*"Come on, y'all! We're gathering all grateful people for a potluck. Let's bring the harvest home."*  
If invitations made it to every mailbox in America and gratitude was the only prerequisite to the party, I wonder how many takers there'd be? Really. Think about it:

Before Black Friday deals danced in our heads as we pretended to reverently pray over the Thanksgiving turkey on Thursday, the only real gripe that got in the way of gratitude (once upon a time) was the fact that we had to endure the in-laws or an obnoxious uncle or two.

But today, the tenor has changed...and not for the better. Can't you tell? Just the other day, I heard an ad in my periphery that pushed taking advantage of pre-Black Friday sales for those who just cannot wait any longer. Starbucks is already schlepping peppermint mochas and Lowes is selling life sized-Santa mannequins next to discounted Halloween demons that shriek on demand. Mindlessly, we meander through the aisles amid a series of "ho, ho, ho's" mixed with sinister "ha, ha, ha's" relatively unmoved...and it should scare the daylights out of us.

It's like there's not enough in November to increase our margins or improve the market and so we skip the month altogether in the name of pursuing profits, numb to the notion that it's destroying our peace in the process. "But wait!," you say. "Pastor, I thought we were talking about gratitude, not peace. Where's the disconnect?" There's not one. The Apostle Paul pinpoints it in his letter to the Philippians. In fact, I preached about it a few weeks ago. Check this out: This is what he says: "With *thanksgiving* [emphasis mine] let your requests be made known to God. And *the peace* of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4: 6-7).

The statement is simple, but the connection is so existentially significant. Don't miss it: Gratitude is the prelude to peace. If that's true (and I believe it is), we cannot possess real peace and skip practicing gratitude. Therein lies the problem: we've excised gratitude from our collective vocabulary and replaced it with offense and outrage. For far too long we've deployed these evil twin sisters as the avatars to effect change in the world – and they certainly have: We're more brittle in our discourse and bitter in our hearts than ever before. It's simply the symptom of a nation that is now anemic due to ingratitude.

Contrary to what the commercials would have us believe, consumption isn't the cure, nor is it an attitude. An *attitude of gratitude*, I'm learning, is insufficient. We cannot think our way there. The scientific data suggests gratitude must be a daily, deliberate practice – a decision. "Come ye thankful people, come." What'cha gonna do? Sing along or sit it out? Start with thanksgiving. Don't skip it. And then don't be surprised to find that peace will follow.

*-Pastor Jake*

*The Spire*

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# November Sermon Series



**There's one thing we all want...  
There's one thing we all have...  
And if there's one God we all serve,  
There's one thing we've got to do.**

## **Matthew 25: 14-30**

**A three-week guide to a better life and a  
bolder faith.**

Week 1: (Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>)  
Week 2: (Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>)  
Week 3: (Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>)

"The One with the One"  
"The Ones to the One"  
"At Once!"

**Children's Church**  
**"Hands up, Hands on,**  
**Hands out"**

Children ranging from 4 years through the 3rd grade are invited to attend this program which will follow "Children's Moments" during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, Stephanie Gates, "Ms. Steph", will offer music at this time to those children in Kindergarten through the 5th grade.

We are seeking volunteers to help with this program. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex for you to place your name.

**November Collections**  
**for the HOC**

For the month of November, we will be collecting Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper and rice for the HOC.

Because of the increase in new families they serve, they are also in need of the following: **cooking oil, sugar, canned fruit, box meals, and flour.**

We would like to thank everyone who donated items for the month of October.

**Christian Sympathy**

Our thoughts and prayers are with the following:

- Linda Wagenheim, Rick & Annie Morgan and Family on the death of Don Wagenheim.
- Mary Jones, Jim & Karen Bruhn on the death of Alice Bruhn.

**Appalachian Christmas**  
**Project**

We will once again be collecting shoeboxes for the Appalachian Christmas Project. Suggested items include: **disposable razors; calendars; shaving cream; bar soap; shampoo; toothbrush/toothpaste; Deodorant; wash cloth; purse size Kleenex; comb or brush; Q-tups; cotton balls; notepads/pencils/pens. Optional items: stamps/envelopes; Chapstick; first aid cream; magnifying glass; socks; knee highs; hand sanitizer; nail clippers/tweezers; jar grips/pot scratcher; small puzzle book; denture cleaner.**

Please put a signed Christmas card inside the shoe box. Label the box - "L" for ladies; "M" for men; "E" for either. No ribbons or bows on the outside.

**All boxes should be delivered to the church by Sunday, November 19.**

**Christmas Donations**

Tags for participation in the House of the Carpenter Christmas Kids and Crittenton Angel Tree will soon be displayed. Please consider taking a tag and making someone's Christmas a little brighter.

We will be receiving 20 tags from Crittenton and 25 from the House of the Carpenter.

**T-Shirt Orders**

T-Shirt orders can be picked up in the Narthex on Sunday, November 12.

**Commitment Sunday**

Commitment Sunday will be held on Sunday, November 19th.

**Coffee Hour**

Volunteers to host coffee hour are needed for the month of November. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Poinsettia orders in memory of or in honor of a loved one are being taken until December 3rd. Your payment must accompany your order. The cost is \$15.00 each.



**Quantity: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_**

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

# November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Karen Bruhn Nov. 1  
 Erin\* Mudge Nov. 1  
 Shane Bryant Nov. 2  
 Shawn\* Bryant Nov. 2  
 Heather Clawson Nov. 3  
 Betty Johnson Nov. 3  
 Jacob Nickell Nov. 3  
 Carol Waris Nov. 3  
 Wendy Barbeau Nov. 4  
 Warren B. Galbreath Nov. 5  
 Jennifer\* Hatton Nov. 5  
 Meghen\* Jones Nov. 6  
 William R. Metzner, Jr. Nov. 6  
 William R. Metzner, Sr. Nov. 6  
 Mitchell\* McCreary Nov. 7  
 Russell Bond, Jr. Nov. 9  
 Susan Jane Large Nov. 9  
 Cathy\* Muhleman Nov. 9  
 Tyler Thorngate Nov. 9  
 Jesse\* Channel Nov. 11  
 Robert Strasser Nov. 11  
 David Gersting Nov. 12  
 Kohlby Jebbia Nov. 12  
 Maxwell\* Morgan Nov. 12  
 Ryan\* Bitzer Nov. 13  
 Deborah Kiester Nov. 14  
 Timothy Michael Large Nov. 14  
 Mark Lindsay Nov. 14  
 Lisa Sims Nov. 15  
 Lucy Harman Nov. 16  
 Donita Rush Nov. 17  
 Heath\* Woodburn Nov. 19  
 Jagger\* Jones Nov. 20  
 David Wharton Nov. 20  
 Samuel\* Wilmoth Nov. 20  
 Peter\* Wilmoth Nov. 20  
 Chris Woodburn Nov. 20  
 Nicole\* Hibbs Nov. 21  
 Zachary\* Knight Nov. 21  
 Tiffany Lee Nov. 23  
 McKenna Dunbar Nov. 24  
 Sallie Knight Nov. 24  
 Shaun Murphy Nov. 24  
 Lauren Smaltz Nov. 25  
 Lyndsee\* Wharton Nov. 25  
 John McFadden Nov. 26

David B. Ellwood Nov. 27  
 Michael Godown Nov. 27  
 Kim Hall Nov. 27  
 R. Bruce Bandi Nov. 28  
 Darlene Beale Nov. 29  
 Justin\* Hornyak Nov. 30  
 Kristin Nolte Nov. 30  
 Allyson\* Wilson Nov. 30

## Dean & Judy Wright

November 1

## Tom & Erikka Storch

November 18

## Timothy & Jill Bandi

November 20

## Jack & Linda Kerr

November 27

## CARE FACILITIES

### •Good Shepherd

Jack Kerr 320  
 Mildred Posey

### •Peterson

Jane Friebertshauser 520

### •Sienna Skilled Nursing & Rehab (Wintersville)

Donald Bowman

### •Wheeling Hospital Cont. Care

Margaret Strome 166



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Olivia Kiger-Camilo; Parker Fox; Katie Histing; Kevin Barton; Becky & George Newton; Cynthia Hileman; Frank Gilbert & Family; Richard Gilliam; Logan; Amanda Sampson; Barbara Buckwack; Anna Marie Kloss; Harry; James Gyer; Brittany Yoho; Kim Bowman; Bob & Debbie Becker; Lee; Suzanne; Ruth Wade; Ronald Sampson; Jeff Winslow; Addison Stephans; John Defibaugh; Randy Jones; Bill Stephens; Justin; Lendon; Travis Ellis; Bill; Sony and Gary; Josh Chaplin; Melissa; Breanne; Sara & Wyatt; Karen & Jim Bruhn; Sandy Thames; Leslie Heldreth; Glenn Balla; John Witzberger; Freda Blake, Sherry Curry; Barb Wotojwicz; Buddy Bowman; Family of Anya Robertson; Joan McClelland; Joanne Taylor; Debi Smith; Roxie Derheimer; Randy Austin & Family; Miller Family; Jason Broadwater; Betty Dent; Bob McDonald; Paul & Kim Weber; Carol Pattim; Pat Staton; Jim Bowman; Donald Bowman; Rosemary Leicet; Terry; Linda & Jack Kerr; Kenny Nickerson; Dawn Walker Schemp; Jessie; Cathy Pavlock; Zach Henry; Harold Tharp; Randy Straub; Scott Morris; Michael Selick; Sara Madison; Sherwood Dobbs; Lauren Robinson; Harriett McCardle; Ted Allen; Gary Haught; Betty Hissom; Brad King; Jim Jones; Jenn; Gail; Jeff; Sara Staley; Cody McAvoy; Kristen Smith; Betty Love; Jonathan Chance; Elizabeth Carson; Connie Macek; Bill Harr; Mr. P.; Linda Moffit.

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# Thanksgiving Bible Trivia Quiz

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1. From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sound of \_\_\_\_\_. I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honor, and they will not be disdained. *Jeremiah 30:19*

- a. bells   b. music   c. rejoicing   d. circumstances**

2. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all \_\_\_\_\_; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. *1 Thessalonians 5:18*

- a. cities   b. things   c. situations   d. circumstances**

3. It was the duty of the trumpeters and \_\_\_\_\_ to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the Lord, and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the Lord. *2 Chronicles 5:12-13*

- a. singers   b. saxophones   c. musicians   d. choir**

4. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all \_\_\_\_\_, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. *Colossians 3:16*

- a. love   b. wisdom   c. words   d. praise**

5. With sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving he shall bring his offering with \_\_\_\_\_ of leavened bread. *Leviticus 7:13*

- a. cakes   b. loaves   c. muffins   d. sticks**

6. I will give to the Lord thanks due to his \_\_\_\_\_, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High. *Psalms 7:17*

- a. holiness   b. perfection   c. righteousness   d. precepts**

7. Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; make \_\_\_\_\_ to him with the harp of ten strings! *Psalms 33:2*

- a. melody   b. music   c. dances   d. praises**

8. To you, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for you have given me wisdom and \_\_\_\_\_, and have now made known to me what we asked of you, for you have made known to us the king's matter. *Daniel 2:23*

- a. might   b. justice   c. love   d. knowledge**



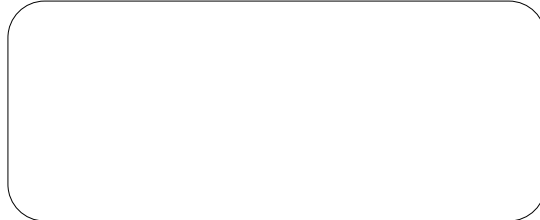
1. c - rejoicing	4. b - wisdom	7. a - melody
2. d - circumstances	5. b - loaves	8. a - might
3. a - singers	6. c - righteousness	



Christ United Methodist Church  
 1232 National Road  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

NON PROFIT  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 WHEELING, WV  
 PERMIT NO. 481



# CUMC "Candy for Charity"

(formerly King Unit)  
 Order now through November 19  
 Delivery will be December 2 through December 10

Smoothies - bagged (10 for \$2) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Buckeyes - boxed (8 for \$5) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mug - filled with smoothies (\$6 each) \_\_\_\_\_

Christmas Sampler Box (5 each) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2 caramel pecan clusters, 2 buckeyes & 4 smoothies)

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For information, please call Carolyn at 304-242-8144. Will accept cash or check – **make checks payable to CUMC**. Mark in memo line: Candy for Charity.

